

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is required for all seed and turfgrass growers and/or conditioners who produce and/or condition certified seed and/or turfgrass.

Any other person or firm interested in promoting the objectives of the Association and in receiving its benefits may become an Associate member without voting privileges by paying the membership fee.

An application for either membership may be accepted or rejected by the Board of Directors.

GCIA may share with the developer, maintainer or licensing authority any requested applications, reports, observations, data supporting quality or quantity of production fields, seed, product, etc. of varieties requiring a license to propagate.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

1. Applications for membership and crop inspection will be provided on request.
2. Final dates for filing: (Late applications may be returned)

February 1	Rye, Triticale, Canola & Lupine
March 1	Turfgrass (Zoysia and Bermudas)
March 15	Pecan Trees, Miscanthus & Perennial Peanuts
April 1	Grasses: Bermuda, Bahia, Tall Fescue, Clovers, Oats, Wheat, & Barley
May 15	Hybrid Corn (South Georgia)
June 1	Hybrid Corn (North Georgia), Tobacco, Okra & Forest Trees*
July 1	Peanuts, Cotton, Sorghums, Southern Peas & Lespedeza
August 15	Soybeans & Millet
March 15	Final date for making foundation seed reservations for spring planting.
September 15	Final date for making foundation seed reservations for fall planting.
*October 15	Forest Tree - for initial inspection 21 months prior to seed collection.
3. Late applications: When received more than three weeks after the dates specified, applications may be accepted only if the Association has the time and personnel to make the necessary inspections. See fee schedule for late charges.

## FEES

The schedule of fees outlined below were approved by the Board of Directors

- A. **MEMBERSHIP FEE:** \$50.00 per year
- B. **INSPECTION FEE:** For pre-planting inspections of bahiagrass, vegetatively propagated pasture grass, fescue & lespedeza, \$2.70/A.  
Pecan Trees – Donor trees (foundation and/or registered trees) inspection, annually, \$50.00 per hour plus mileage
- C. **ACREAGE FEES:** \$1.80 per acre for the following crops: cotton, soybeans, sorghums, lupine, wheat, oats, barley, peanuts, clover, millet, lespedeza, and other grasses.  
  
\$2.50 per acre for rye, canola & triticale (Two inspections required)  
  
\$1,200.00 for the 1st five acres of part thereof, \$19.00 per acre for each additional acre of all classes of turfgrass. (\$1,200.00 minimum applies to each farm location – separate farm is defined as fields being further than 25 miles apart)  
  
\$265.00 for first 10 acres or part thereof; \$4.00/A for all over 10 acres of vegetatively propagated pasture grasses.  
  
\*Pecans – see application fee  
  
\*\*Miscanthus – see application fee  
  
\*\*\*Perennial Peanuts – see application fee
- D. **APPLICATION FEE:** Minimum \$225.00 (membership not included)  
  
\*Pecans - \$500.00 application fee plus travel for onsite visit (this does not include membership), \$250.00 for desk audit (this does not include membership)  
  
\*\*Miscanthus - \$500.00 application fee for 1st acre or part thereof (this does not include membership) plus \$8.00 per acre for each additional acre  
  
\*\*\*Perennial Peanuts - \$500.00 application fee for 1st acre or part thereof (this does not include membership) plus \$8.00 per acre for each additional acre

E. **TAG FEE:** \$.15 per tag/label plus shipping costs; Pecans - \$0.50 per tree sold

Specialty tags/labels - \$100.00 initial set up fee; plus \$.30 per tag/label for Black Print only or \$.35 per tag/label for Color, for all tags/labels that require different formatting from certification tags/labels, plus shipping costs.

\*\*\***Note:** In lieu of tag fee – All classes of certified tree seed will be assessed a fee of \$.20 per pound of conditioned seed.

F. **BULK CERTIFICATES:** Fees for certificates will be calculated by dividing the pounds in the container by 50 and multiplied by the current certified tag rate. Preprinted unused certificates will be billed at \$2.00 per certificate. All unused certificates must be returned to the GCIA office each year by the date for each crop as defined in the tag/certificate return schedule.

G. **APPLICATION REVIEW FEE:** When application is received by the GCIA office for inspection of all crops or grasses, regardless of due date, the application will be checked to verify if additional information or paperwork is required and all proof received with the application is correct. If the application or paperwork is incomplete or incorrect, the applicant shall be notified and charged a fee of \$100.00 for identification and notification of errors or incomplete paperwork needed to process the application. Applicant will incur a charge of \$100.00 for each time incomplete information is requested and received. The application review fee shall apply in addition to any late application fees due for late filing. (Instructions for completing application(s) will have indication of items that will incur this fee if received incomplete or incorrect.)

H. **ETCERTIFICATE ANNUAL FEE:** \$150.00 PER YEAR (Fees shall be billed annually on April 1st)

I. **LATE FEES:** (Per application)

1st week \$50.00

2nd week Each additional week past due date – add \$25.00

3rd week or later \$75.00 plus \$.30/A for 1st 50 acres and \$.15/A for additional acreage over 50 acres.

If late adding a grower: \$25.00 plus \$.10/A

No late fee is charged on additional acreage of grower or farm if application is submitted on time or if late fee has been charged against original application.

- J. **APPROVED SEED CONDITIONING PLANT FEES:** \$450.00\* Initial Fee; \$225.00 Annually  
*\*\$450.00 for those being reinstated after having been removed from the approved plant list.*
- K. **PEANUT BUYING POINT FEE:** \$150.00 annually
- L. **RE-INSPECTION FEES:** \$150.00 plus mileage – per re-inspection for all crops
- M. **SPECIAL SERVICES:** Inspection charges for companies who do not purchase certification tags - previous years cost analysis, plus 25%

## RETURN TAG FEE SCHEDULE

Return tags/certificates must be received by:

Spring crops:	Small Grains, Grasses, etc. ....	January 1
Summer crops:	Peanuts .....	July 15
	Soybeans .....	August 1

## **Definition of Terms Used for Purposes of the Georgia Certification Program**

1. *Bare Root Plant*  
A plant grown from seed, in soil, and pulled or undercut for transplanting purposes.
2. *Bulk Container*  
Any large container, used in the final distribution of seed, excluding seed buggies, fertilizer trucks, grain trailers, etc.
3. *Bulk Seed*  
For the purpose of these standards, "Bulk Seed" are defined as seed placed into a container that is not in the course of regular business sealed to prevent tampering and accidental contamination. Examples: seed buggies, fertilizer trucks, grain trailers, etc.
4. *Conditioning*  
Conditioning is the mechanical handling of seed from harvest until marketing.
5. *Double Cross*  
A double cross is the first generation hybrid between two single crosses.
6. *Field*  
An area with clearly defined borders i.e. roads, ditches, bare ground, woods, etc. In any case the minimum width of a field "border" will be two feet.
7. *Off-Types*  
Off-Type means a plant or seed which deviates in one or more characteristics from that which has been described in accordance with section 201.68 (c) of the Federal Seed Act as being usual for the strain or variety. (See Variant)
8. *Open Pollination*  
Open Pollination seed is a seed produced as a result of natural pollination as opposed to hybrid seed produced as a result of a controlled pollination.
9. *Plant Breeder*  
Person or organization actively engaged in the breeding and maintenance of varieties of plants.
10. *Plug*  
A small seedling grown from seed, that is approximately four weeks old and is to be used in the production of finished plants for transplanting purposes.
11. *Preprinted Bags*  
The certified blue tag with analysis is printed on the bag by the bag manufacturer. Variable data, i.e. test date, lot number will be added by the conditioner

12. *Seedling*  
A young plant grown from seed, or plugs, which is being offered for sale for transplanting purposes.
13. *Variants*  
Variants are defined as seeds or plants which are:
- a. Distinct within the variety but occurs naturally in the variety.
  - b. Stable and predictable with a degree of reliability comparable to other varieties of the same kind, within recognized tolerances, when the variety is reproduced or reconstituted.
  - c. Originally a part of the variety seed as released.
  - d. A variant is not an off-type.  
(See Off-Types)
14. *Variety*  
The term variety (cultivar) denotes an assemblage of cultivated individuals which are distinguished by any characteristics (morphological, physiological, cytological, chemical or others) significant for the purposes of agriculture, forestry, or horticulture and which, when reproduced (sexually or asexually) or reconstituted, retain their distinguishing features.